

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MANAMA 00215 191919Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /026 W
----- 099285

P R 191731Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 1893

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO ARE

WHEMBASSY DAMASCUS SYRIA 0018

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV ISRAEL

AMEMBASSY SANAA YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT LE

S E C R E T MANAMA 0215

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS : PFOR, XF, US, BA

SUBJECT : MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORT

1. BOTH AMIR AND GOB FOREIGN MINISTER HAVE EXPRESSED GREAT APPRECIATION FOR BRIEFING ON US PLANS TO CONTINUE MIDDLE EAST PEACE INITIATIVE WHICH I HAVE GIVEN THEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECRETARY'S INSTRUCTIONS AT RIYADH MEETING. FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF THE SYMPATHY WITH RATIONALE BEHIND US PREFERENCE FOR STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH. BOTH HE AND AMIR NOTED GRATIFICATION WITH SECRETARY'S DETERMINATION TO MOVE AHEAD ON THIS PROBLEM.

2. AMIR NEVERTHELESS REITERATED HIS CONCERN THAT WE MOVE QUICKLY IN VIEW OF PRESSURES WHICH SADAT FACES. I SOUGHT TO REASSURE HIM THAT USG FULLY AWARE OF SADAT'S SITUATION. AMIR NOTED THAT SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER, WHEN HE PASSED THROUGH THIS WEEK, HAD SAID SYRIANS UNAWARE OF SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MANAMA 00215 191919Z

WHAT SECRETARY AND SADAT HAD DISCUSSED. FROM GOB FOREIGN

MINISTER'S CAREFUL QUESTIONING ABOUT USG ATTITUDE TOWARD SYRIAN-ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT, I GOT IMPRESSION SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MAY HAVE INDICATED CONCERN HERE THAT US EFFORTS ON EGYPT-ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL MIGHT RESULT IN SYRIA'S BEING LEFT OUT IN THE COLD.

3. WHEN FOREIGN MINISTER ASKED ABOUT REPORT THAT SECRETARY MIGHT VISIT GULF IN MARCH, I ASSURED HIM OF SECRETARY'S INTEREST IN AND KNOWLEDGE OF AREA, AS EVIDENCED BY RIYADH MEETING. I NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT IN VIEW OF OVERWHELMING PRIORITY MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORT, IT OBVIOUSLY PREMATURE TO SPECULATE WHERE, IF ANYWHERE OUTSIDE CONFRONTATION STATES, SECRETARY MIGHT BE TRAVELING IN MARCH. THE FOREIGN MINISTER REITERATED THE POINT HE AND I HAD AGREED ON PRIOR TO RIYADH MEETING; THAT WHILE BAHRAIN WOULD BE GREATLY HONORED BY VISIT FROM SECRETARY, SECRETARY COULD DO LITTLE TO RESOLVE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM BY VISIT TO GULF BUT COULD DO MUCH TO FURTHER THE INTERESTS OF GULF STATES AND US INTERESTS IN GULF BY CONTINUING HIS EFFORTS ON MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS.
TWINAM

SECRET

NNN

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